



FEMA



Prepared by
Todd Beal

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Friday, February 22, 2019

Disclaimer: The purpose of this briefing is to provide a **Regional** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information.

To find your local NWS forecast office, go to www.weather.gov/srh.

Summary of the Upcoming Week



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Today

- **Winter storm warnings across W NM for heavy snow.**
- **Elevated/critical fire weather conditions across SE NM and W TX.**
- **Marginal risk area for strong/severe thunderstorms across S AR/N LA/SE OK/E TX.**
- **Heavy rain/flash flood potential continues over AR/LA.**

Saturday

- **Enhanced risk area for severe thunderstorms across E AR. Slight and marginal risk areas for strong/severe storms across E TX into AR/LA. Damaging winds, large hail, and a few tornadoes possible.**
- **Heavy rain/flash flooding possible across E AR.**
- **Light snow possible in the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles.**
- **Elevated to critical fire weather conditions across SE NM and a large part of Texas.**

Sunday

- **Marginal risk of severe storms across extreme SE LA.**

Monday – Tuesday

- **No significant weather impacts expected.**

River Flooding

- **There are several points that are in, or forecast to rise into, major flood stage.**
 - **In NE AR, the MS River at Osceola is in Major flood and will continue to rise through the middle of next week. Mostly agricultural impacts are expected and farm roads are under water.**
 - **The Cache River at Patterson, AR has risen into Major Flood this morning and will remain in major flood through the weekend at least. Many roads are likely to be under water, but the crest is forecast to be below the levee protection for the area.**

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Feb 22, 2019 – Feb 26, 2019



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DAY / THREAT	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
Severe Storms	SE OK, E TX N LA, SAR	E AR	Extreme SE LA		
		AR/LA/ETX			
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	E AR	E AR			
	NE LA				
Winter Weather	W NM	TX/OK Panhandles			
Fire Weather	SE NM/W TX	SE NM, TX			
River Flooding	NE AR	NE AR	NE AR	NE AR	NE AR
	AR, LA	AR, LA	AR, LA	AR, LA	AR, LA

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

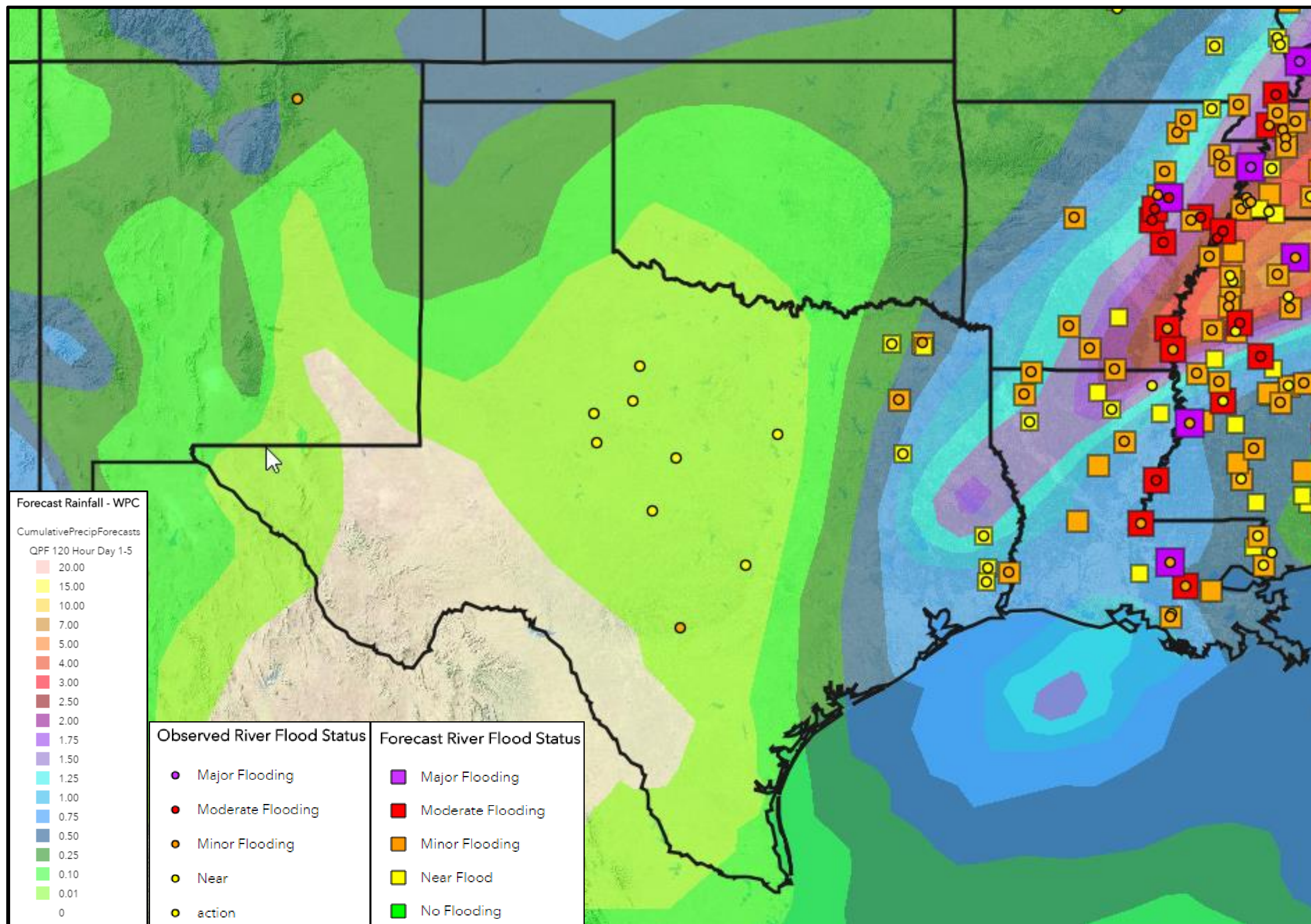
**Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.
State or local threat level criteria may differ.*
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*

5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall



There are a few points in, or forecast to rise into Major Flood Stage:

The MS River at Osceola, AR is in Major flood and will continue to rise through the middle of next week. Mostly agricultural impacts are expected and farm roads are under water.

The Cache River at Patterson, AR has risen into Major Flood this morning and will remain in major flood through the weekend at least. Many roads are likely to be under water, but the crest is forecast to be below the levee protection for the area.

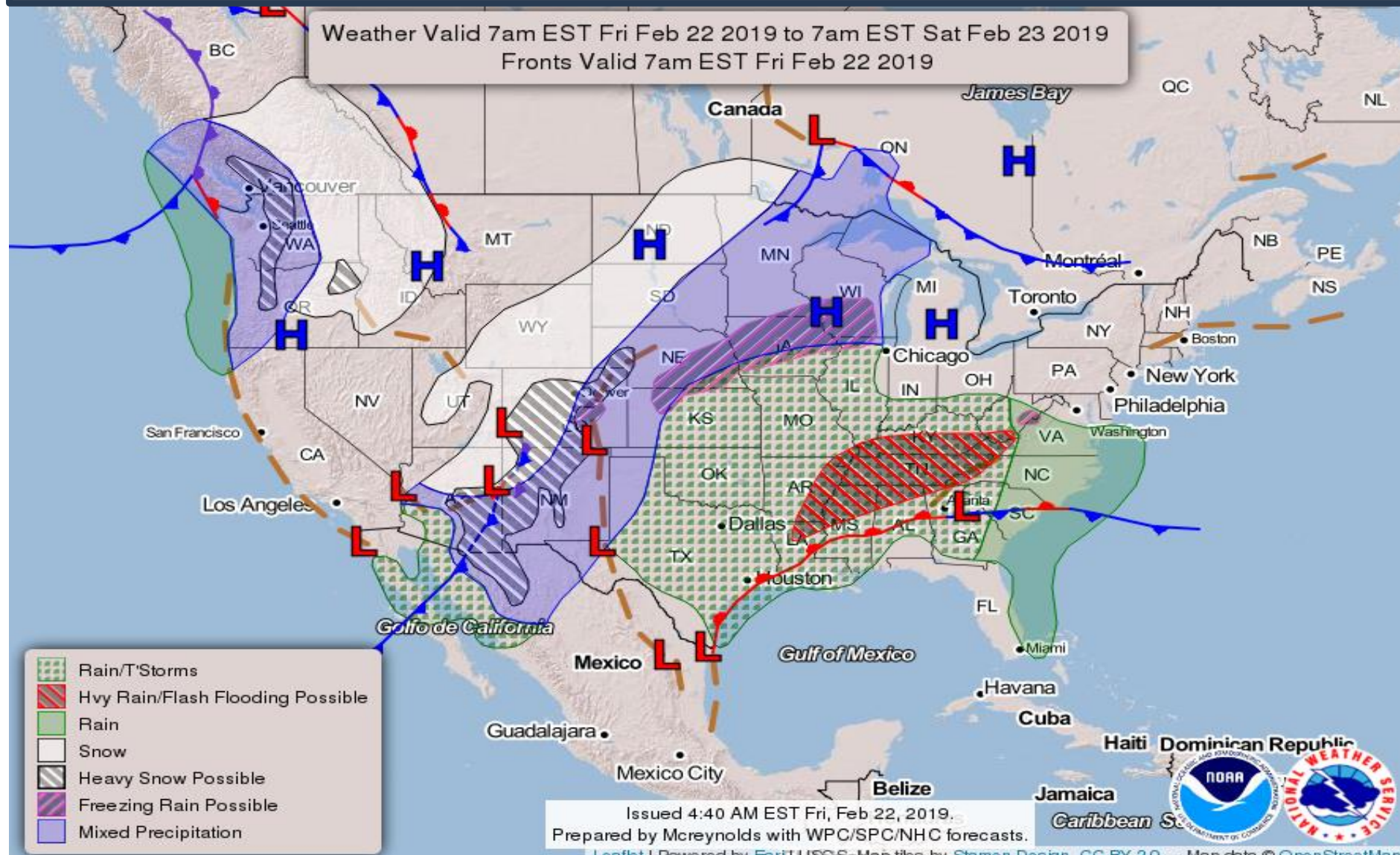
The MS River at Baton Rouge is forecast to continue a slow rise, and into major flood stage late next week; navigation concerns on the river are the main impacts.

Today's Weather

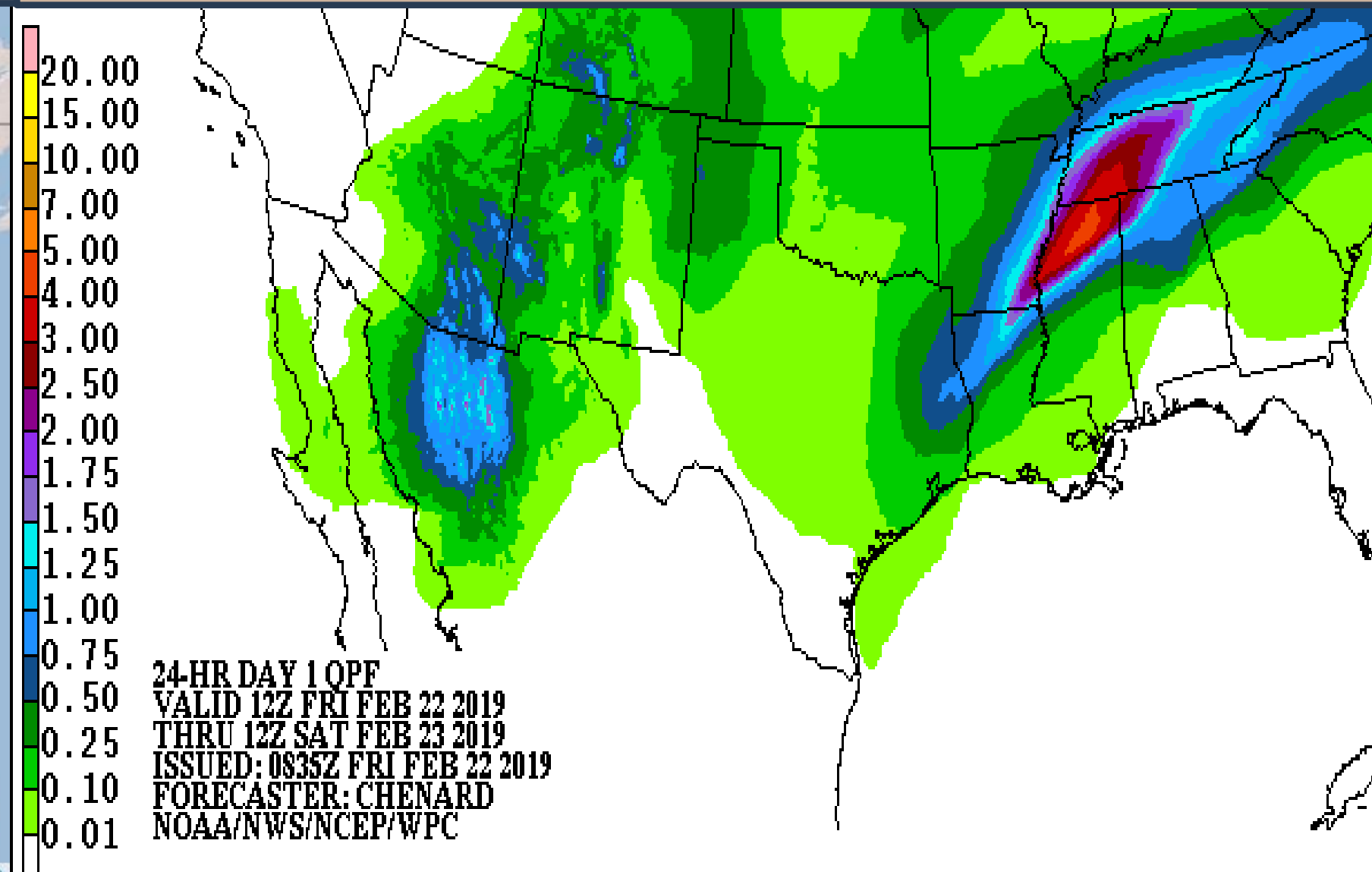


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Forecast Chart



Forecast Rainfall

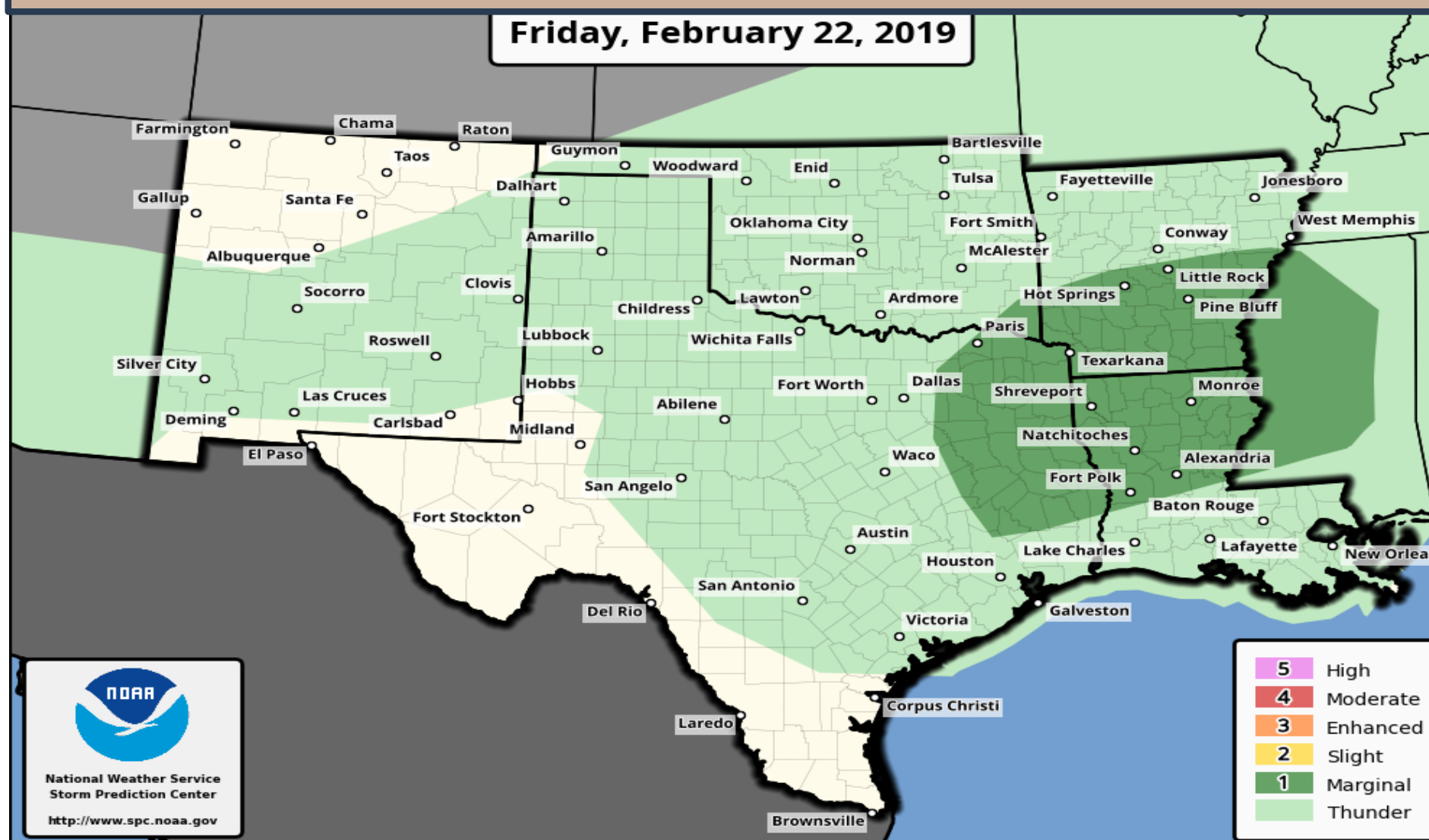


**Heavy rainfall/flash flooding
across E AR into NE LA**

**Winter storm warnings in
effect across W NM.**

**Marginal risk area for
strong/severe storms across
S AR/N LA/E TX/SE OK.**

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook

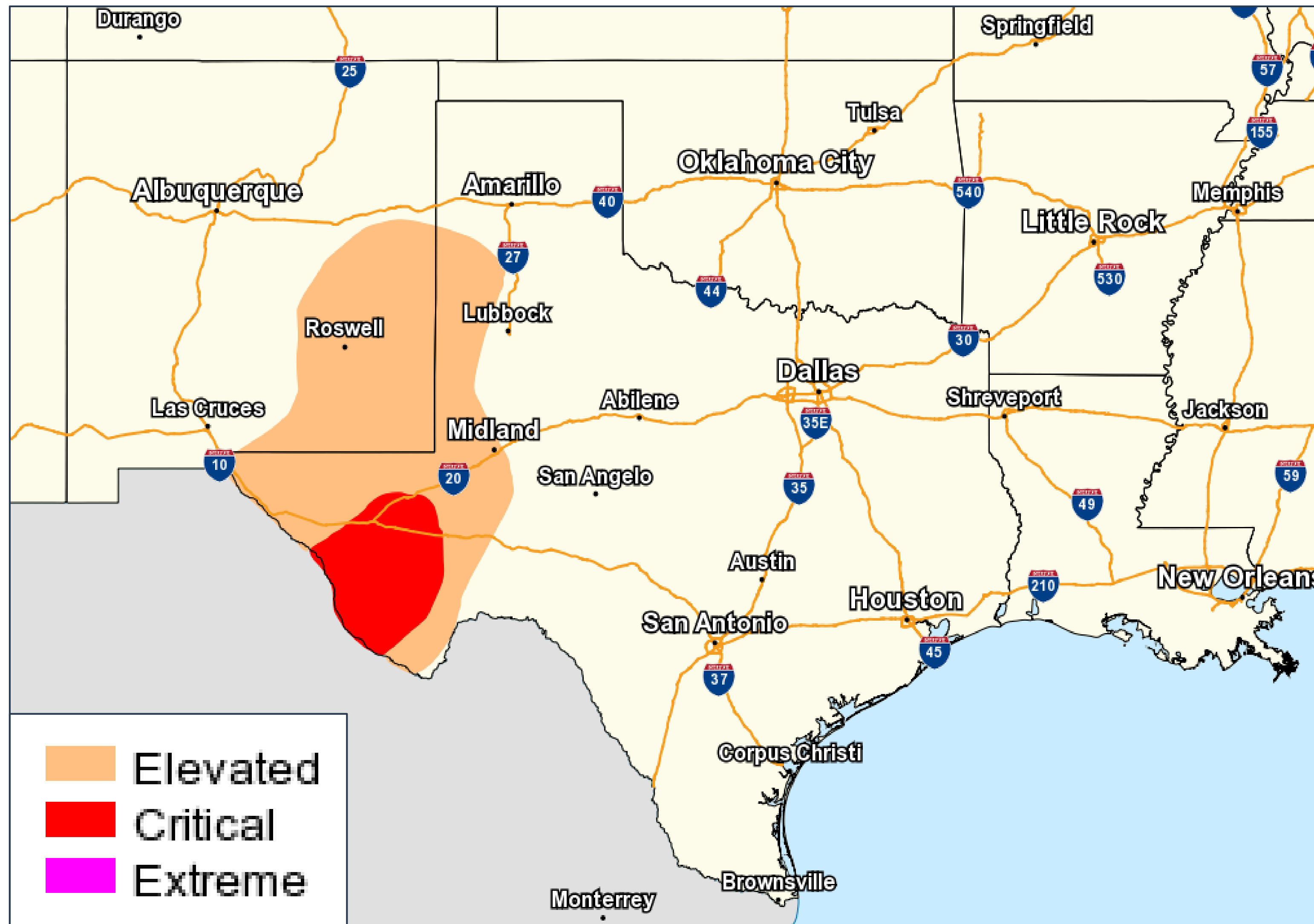


Today's Fire Weather Outlook



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**Elevated/critical fire weather conditions
across SE NM/W TX.**



Watches, Warnings, and Advisories



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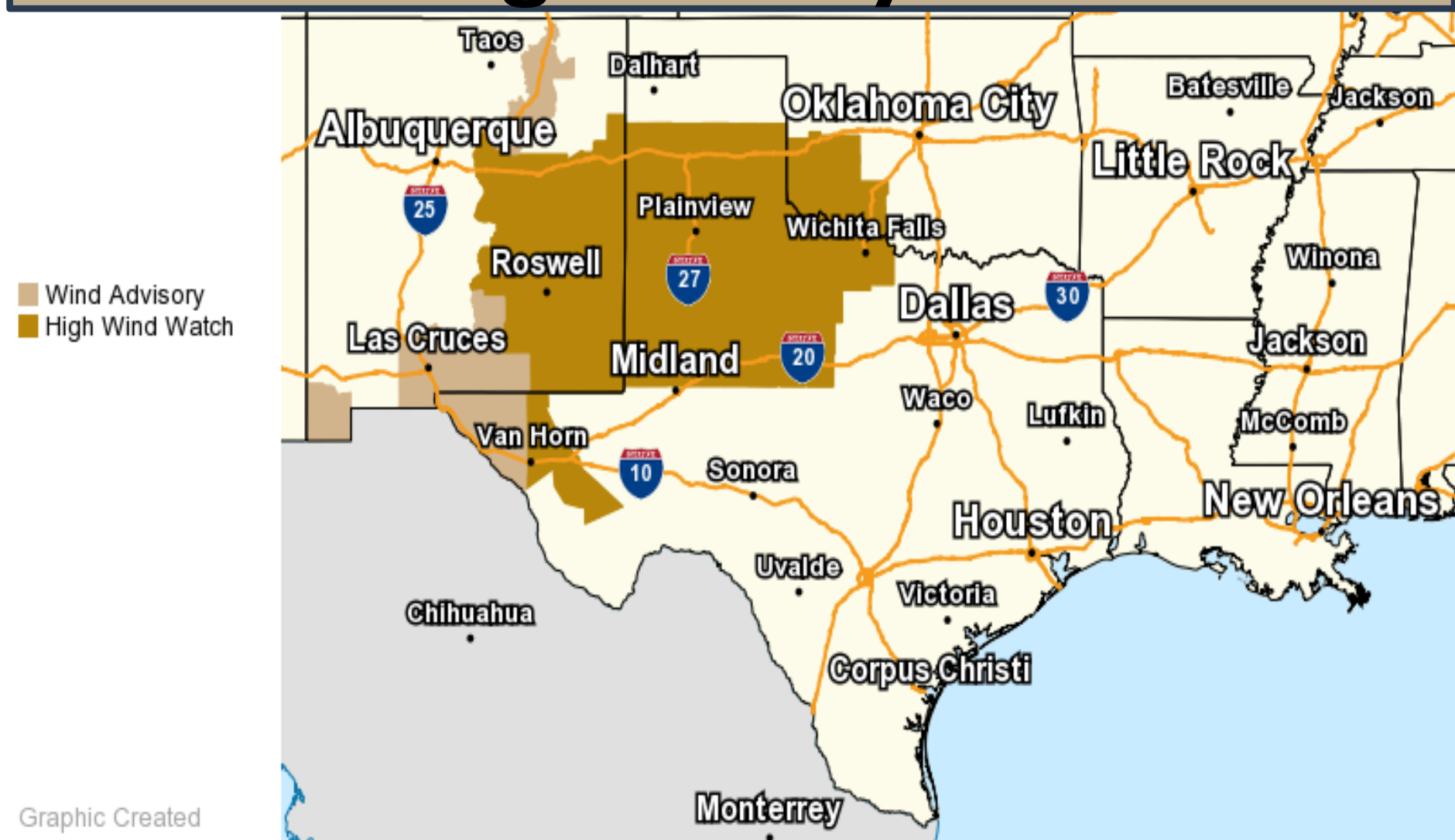
Fire Weather



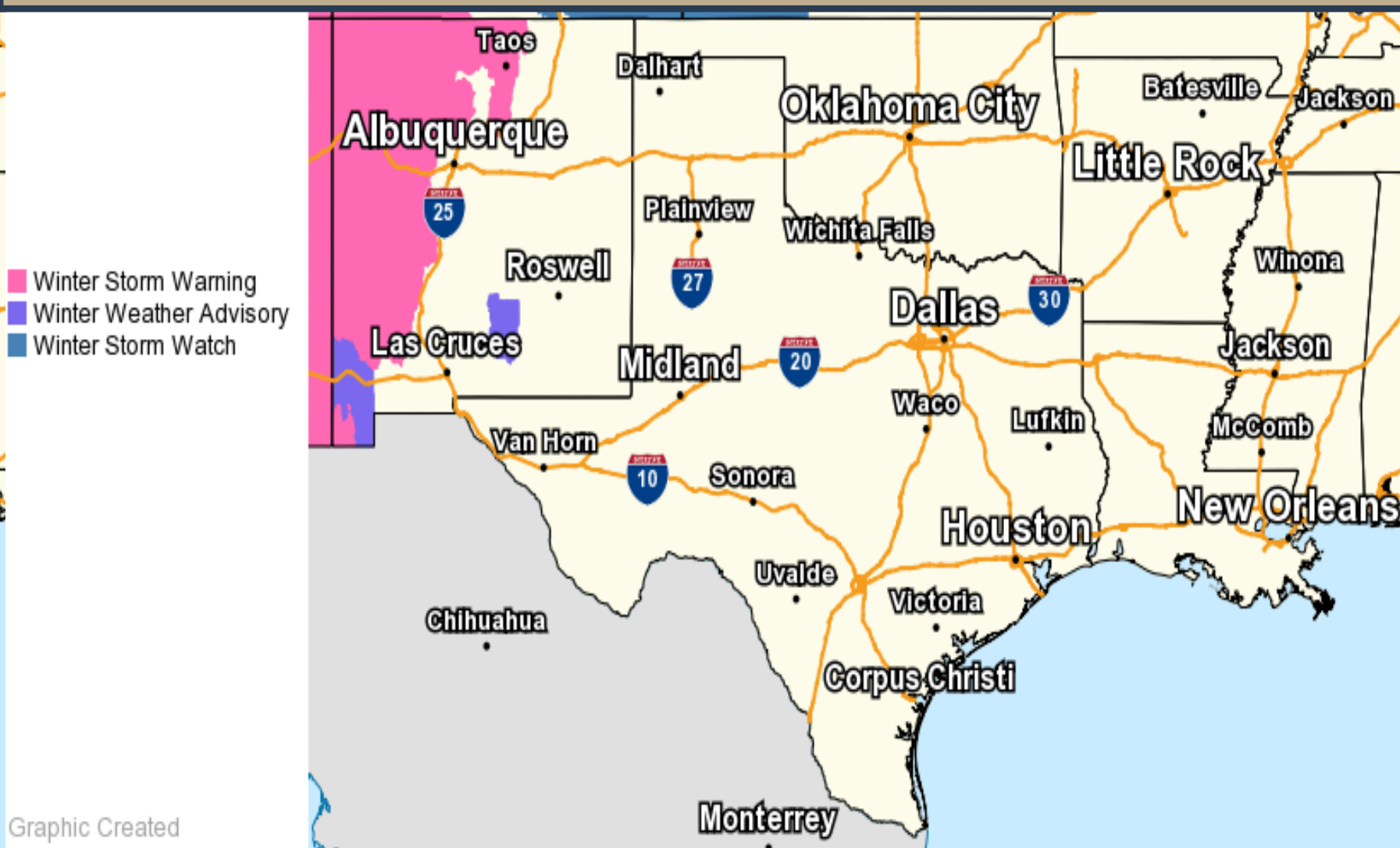
Severe Weather & Flooding



Strong & Gusty Winds



Winter Weather



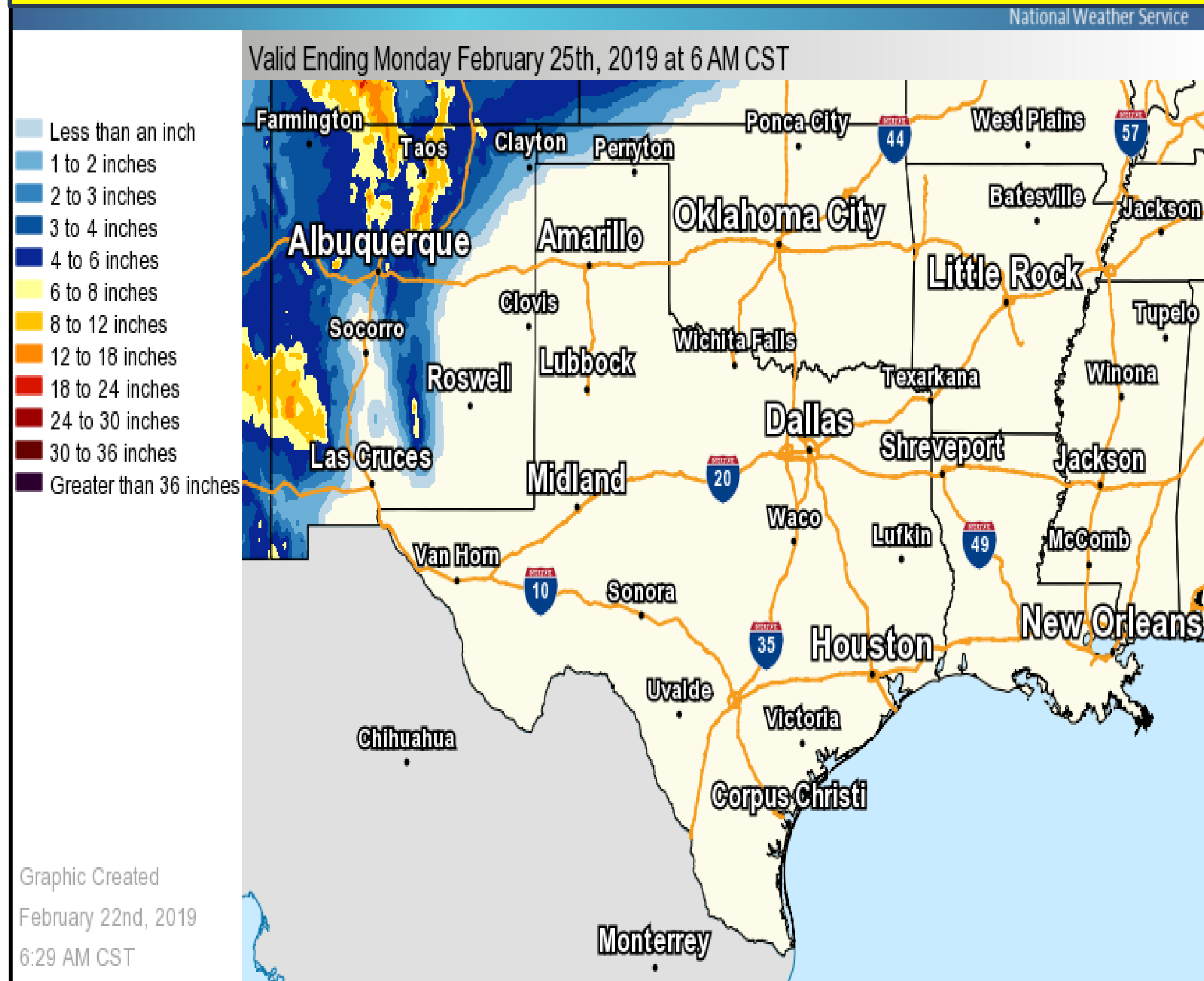
Winter Weather

Note: Snow and Ice Accumulations Days 1 through 3

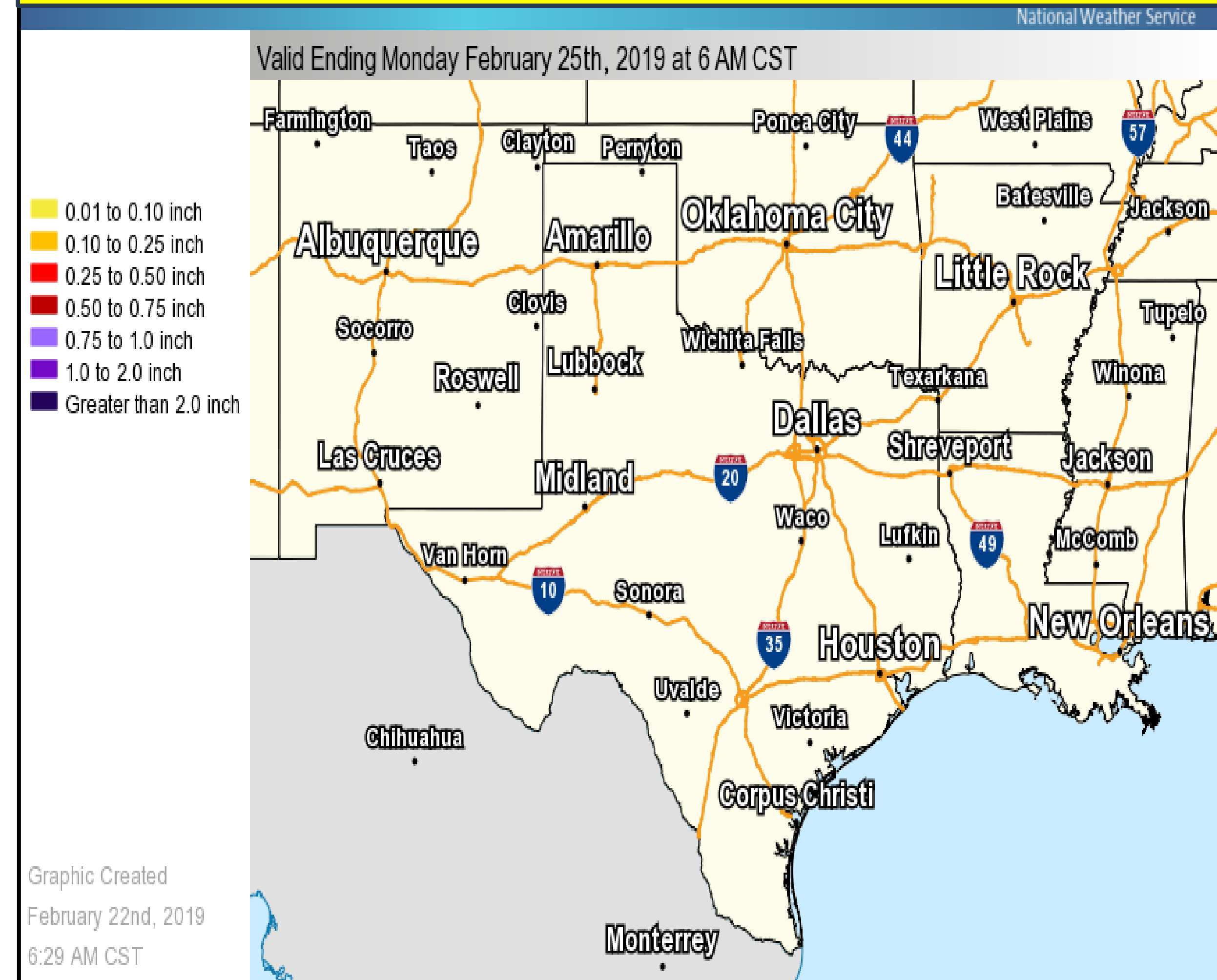


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Forecast Snowfall Amounts



Forecast Ice Amounts



Tomorrow's Weather



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Forecast Chart

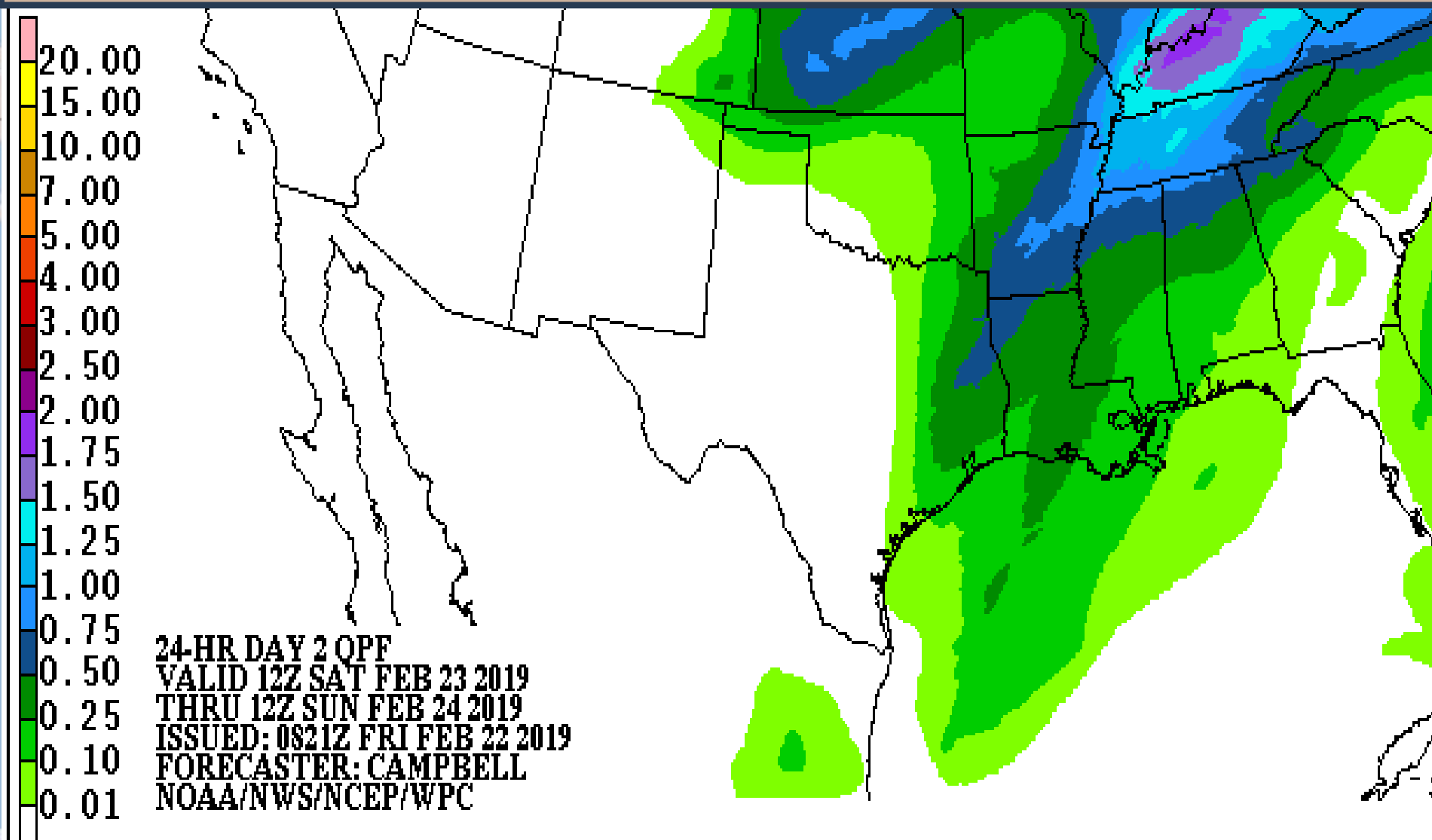
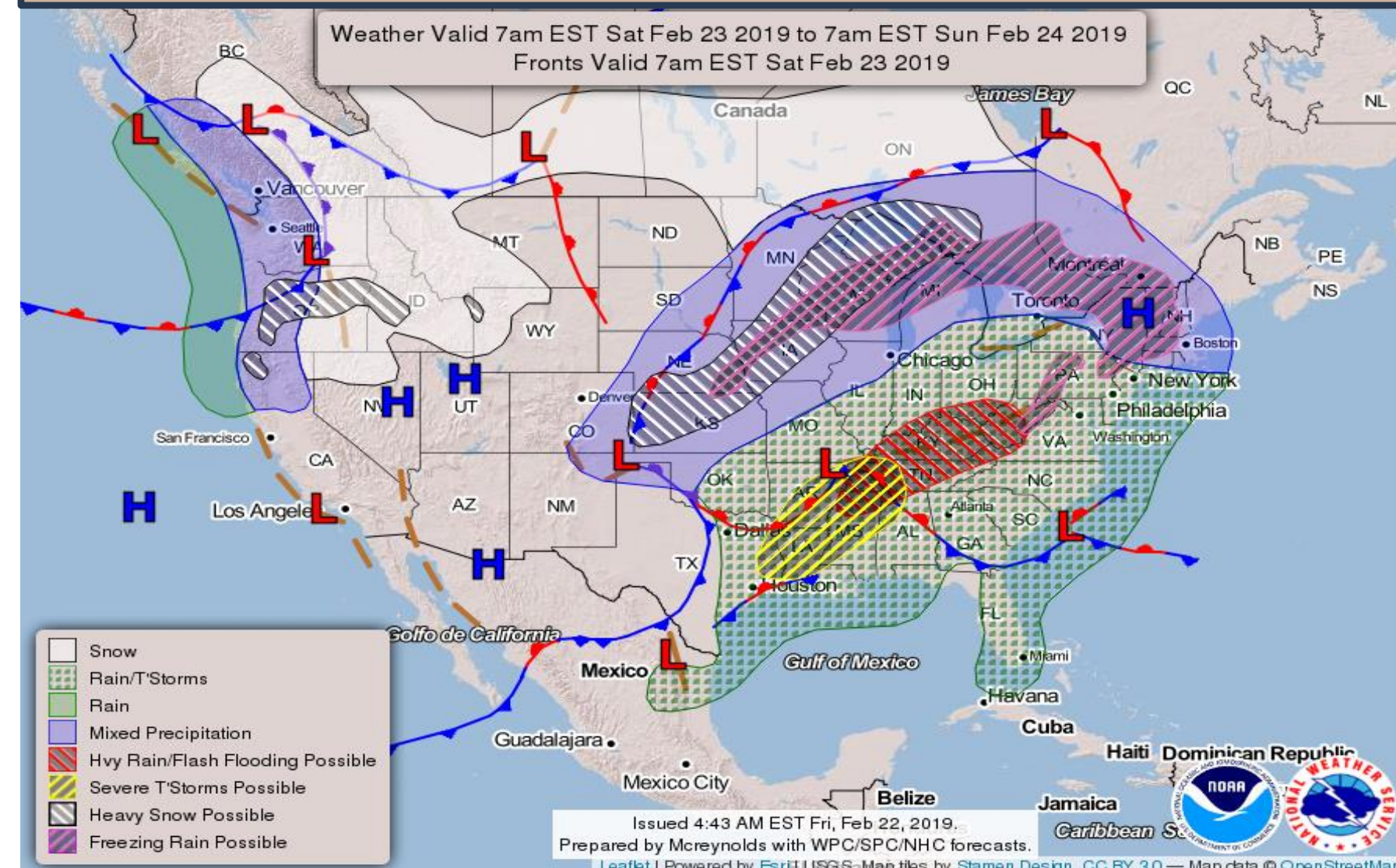
Forecast Rainfall

Enhanced risk area for severe storms across E AR.

Slight risk area for severe thunderstorms across AR/LA into E TX

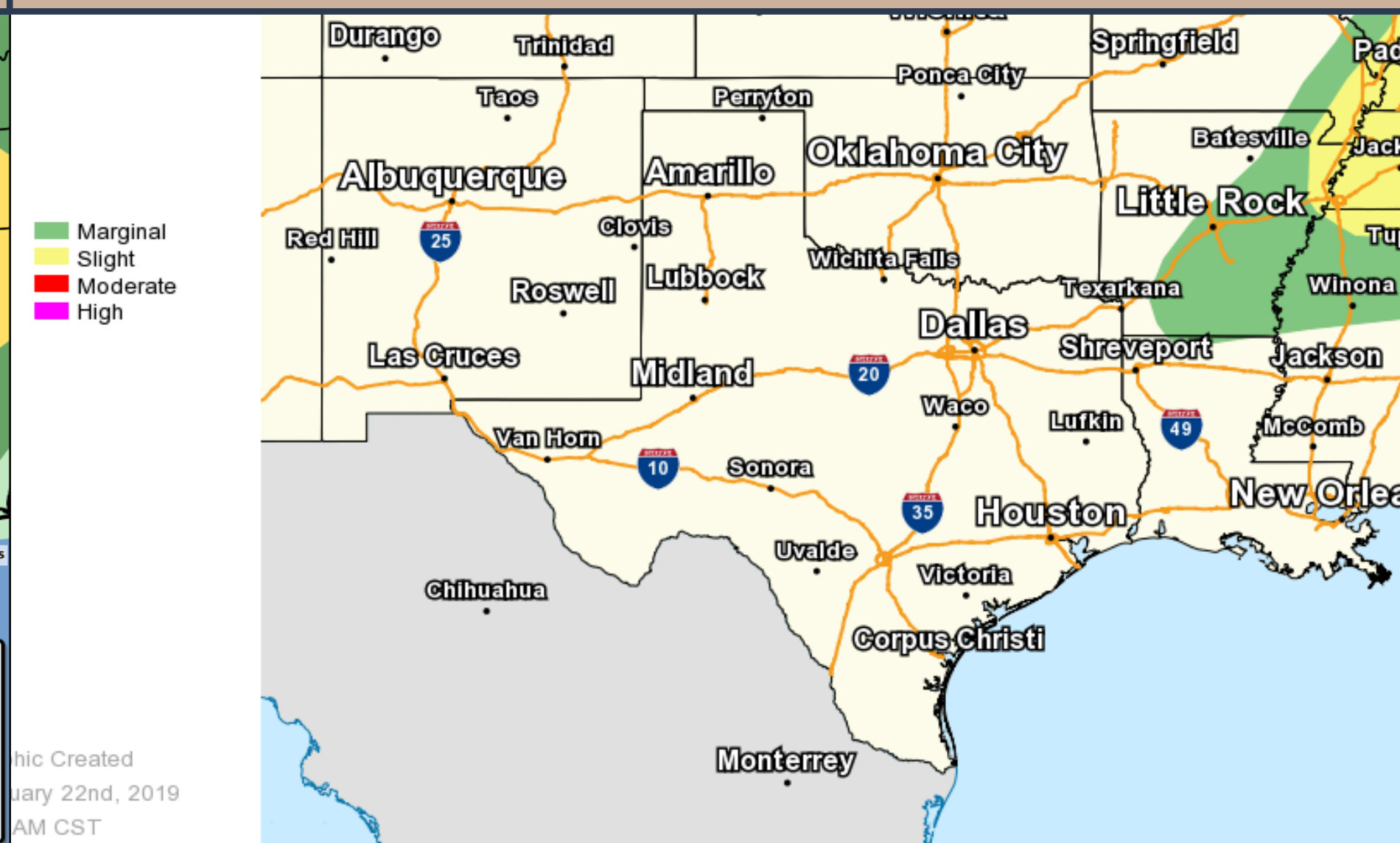
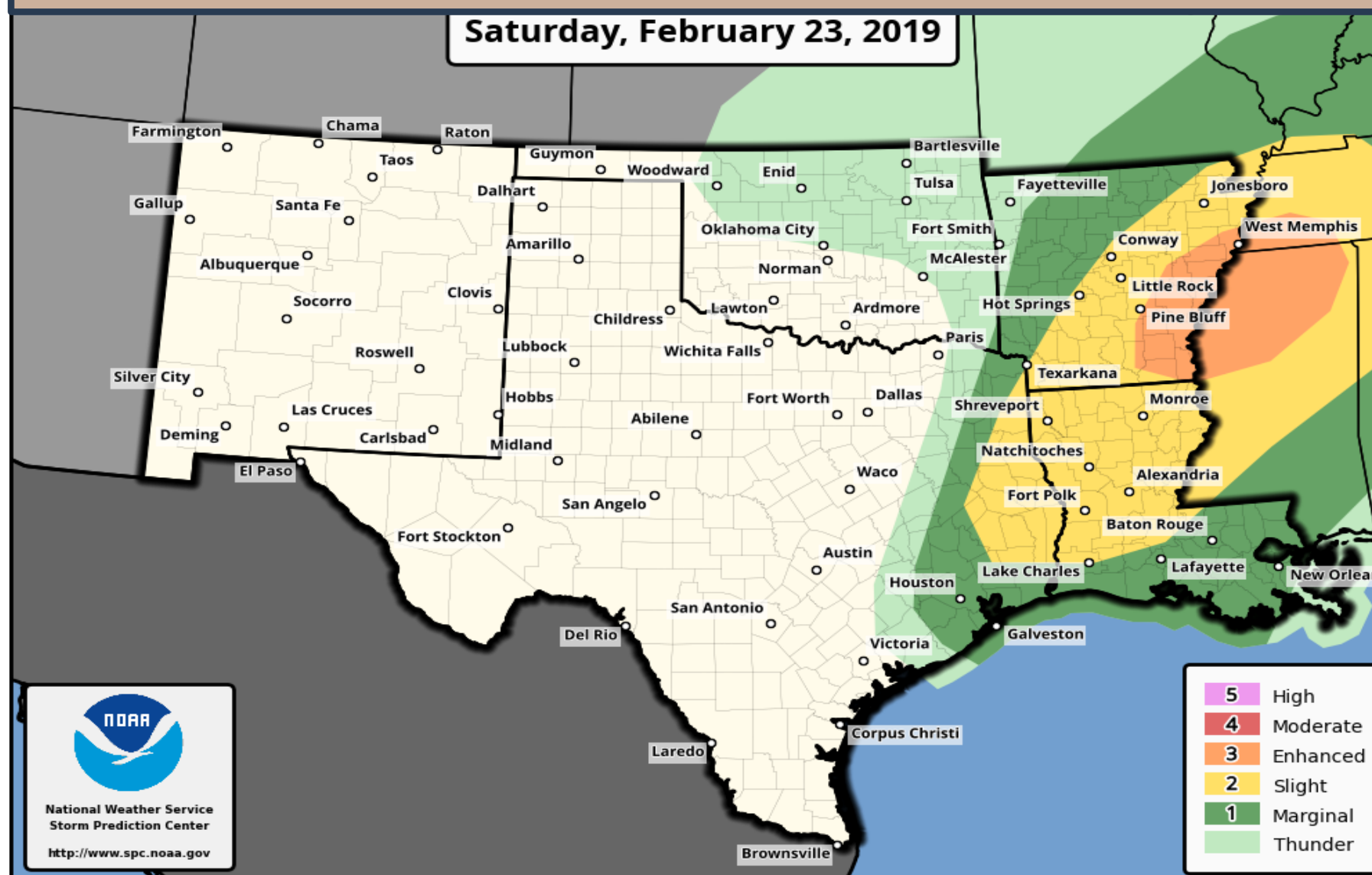
Marginal to Slight risk area for heavy rain flash flooding across E AR.

Light snow in the TX and OK Panhandles



Severe Weather Outlook

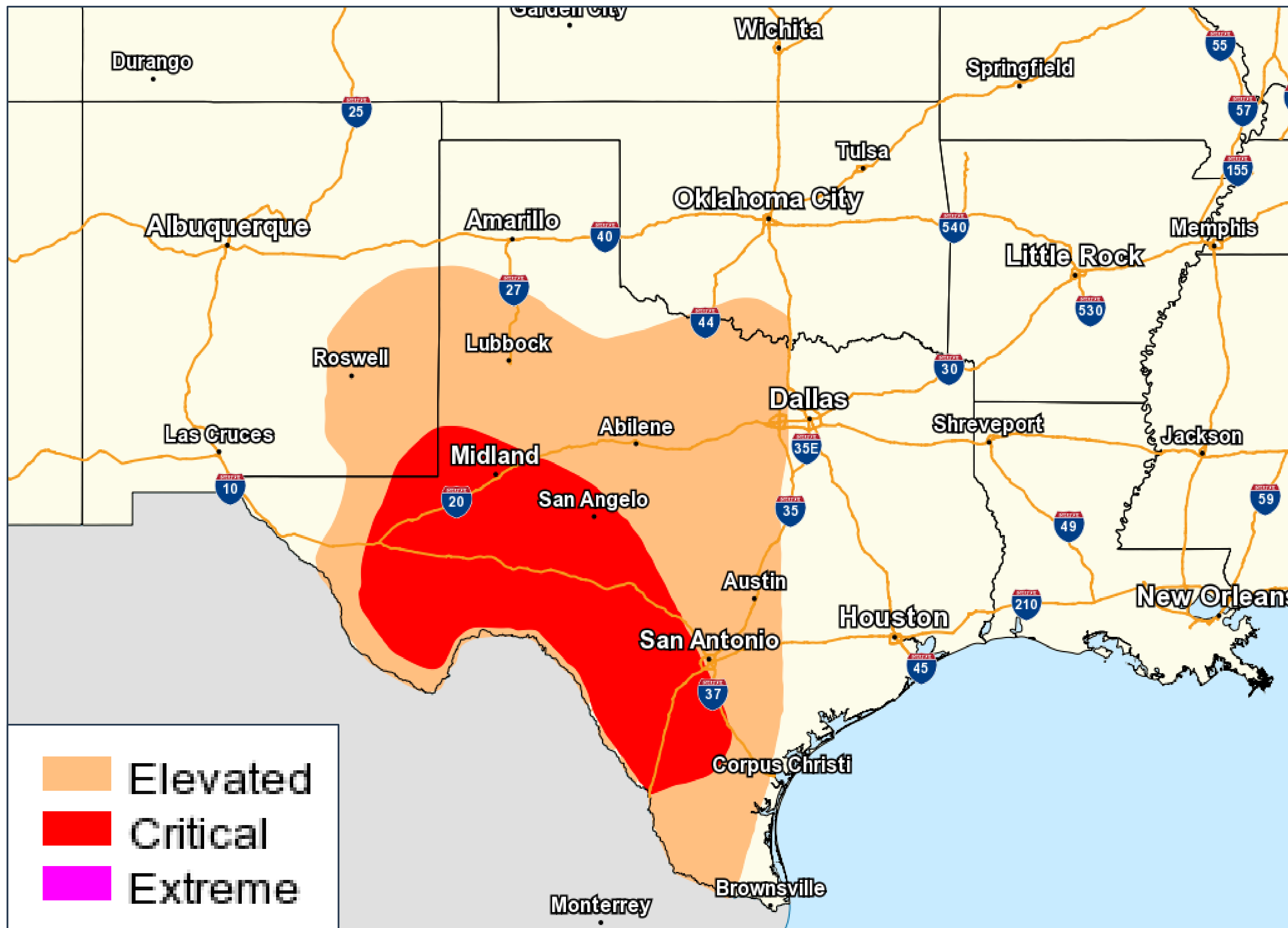
Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Tomorrow's Fire Weather Outlook



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**Elevated/critical fire weather conditions over
SE NM and TX**

Sunday's Weather

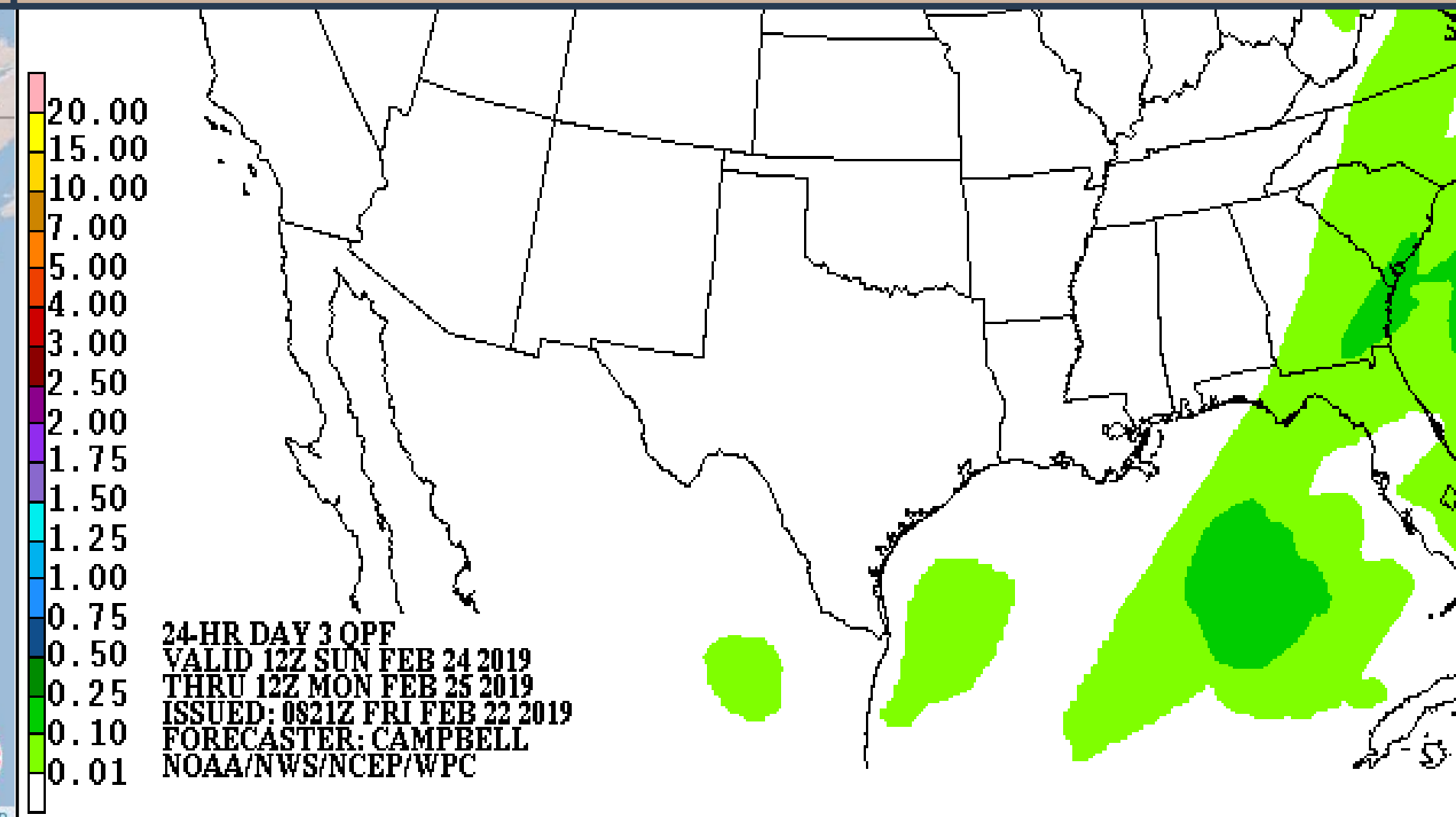
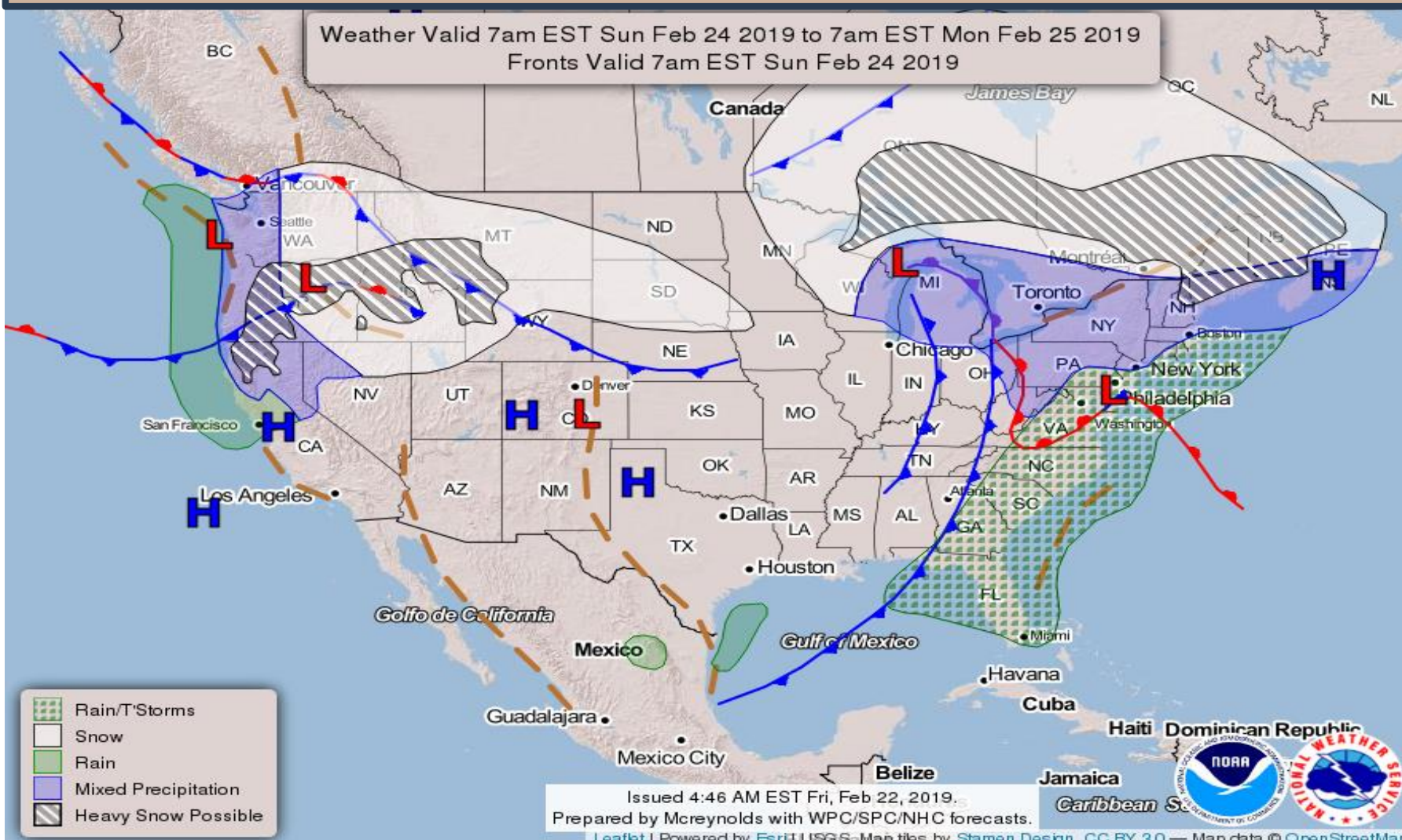
Forecast Chart

Forecast Rainfall



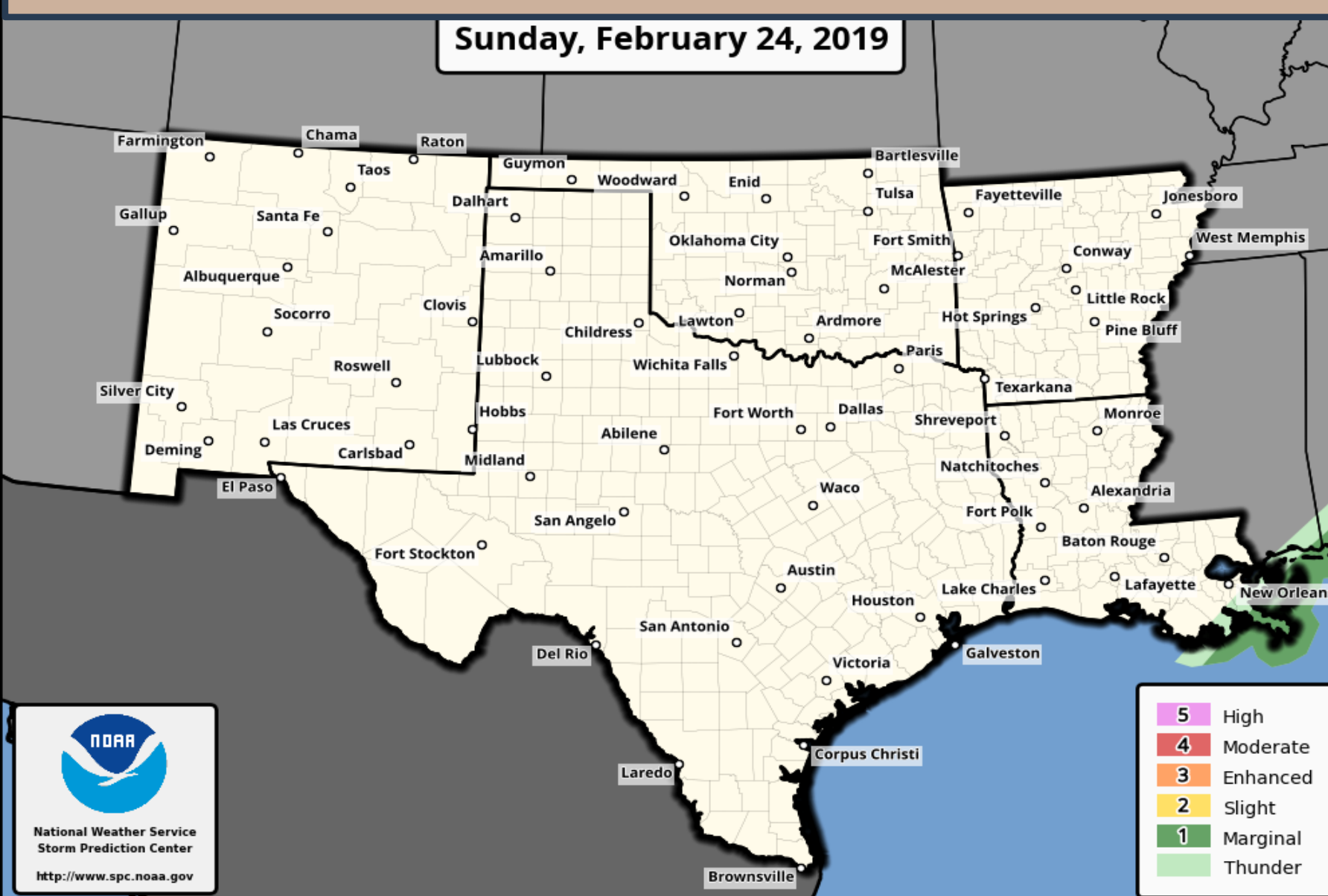
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Marginal risk of severe storms over extreme SE LA



Severe Weather Outlook

Excessive Rainfall Outlook

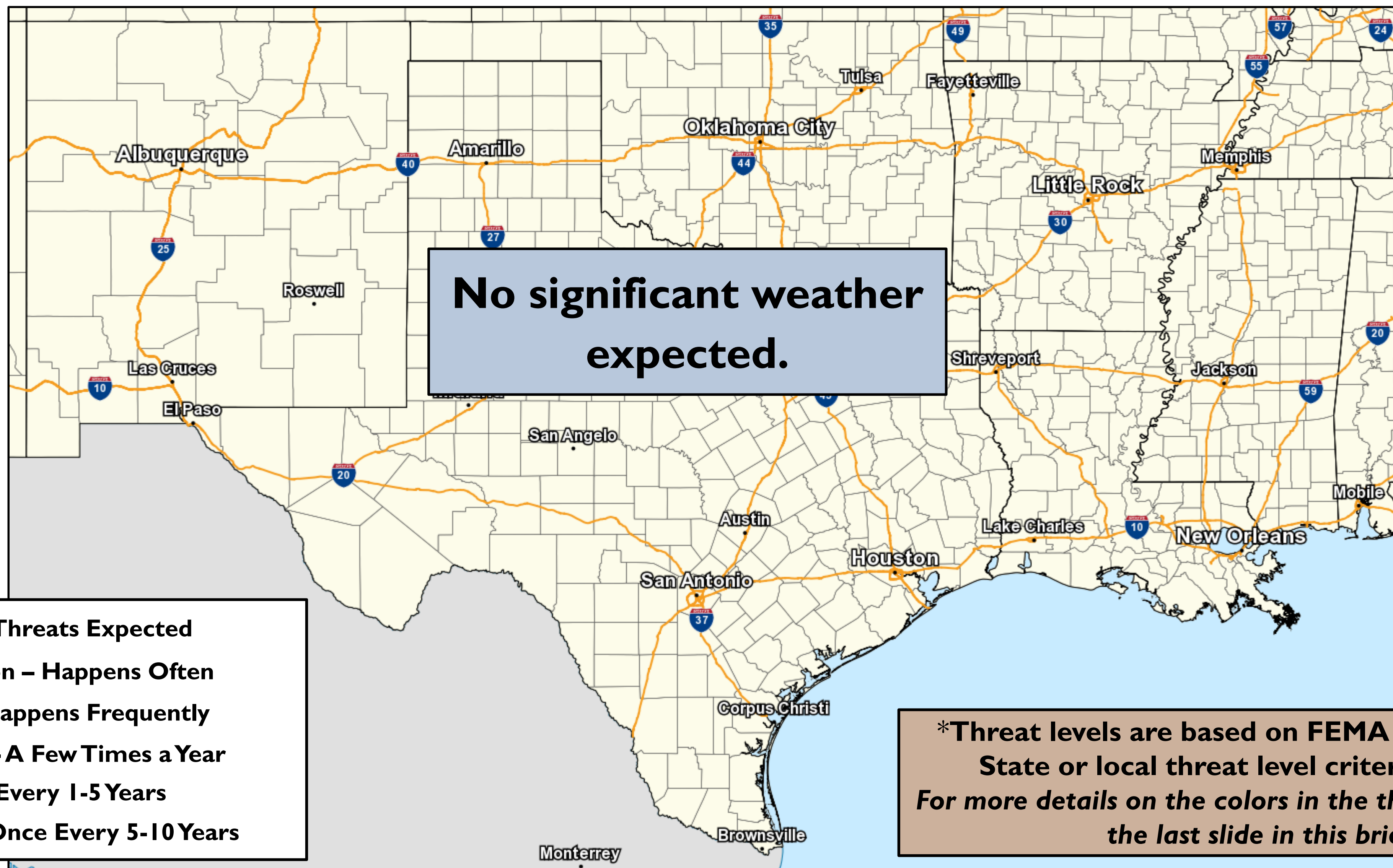


Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Monday – Tuesday



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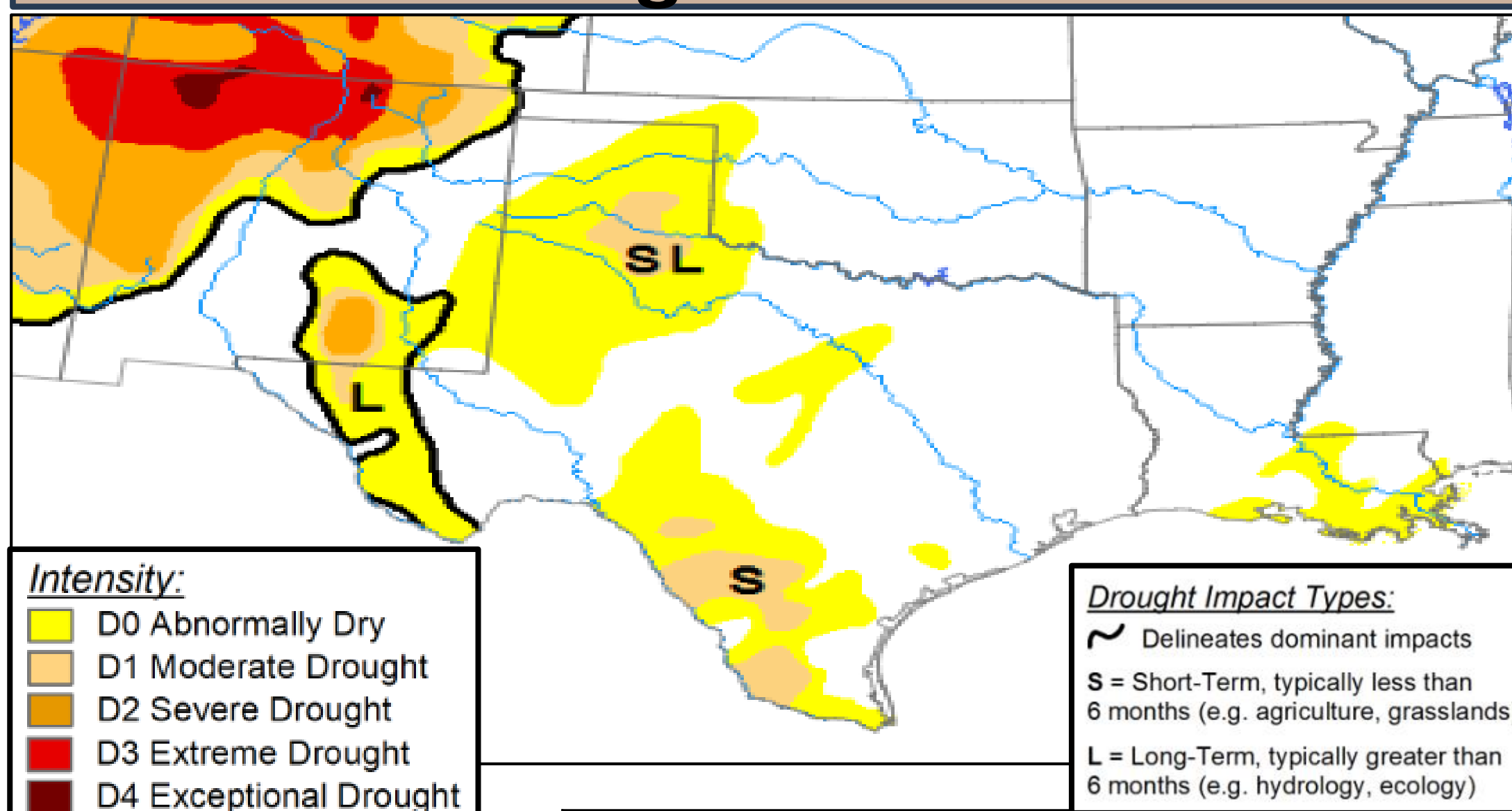
Drought Monitor (Released February 21, 2019)



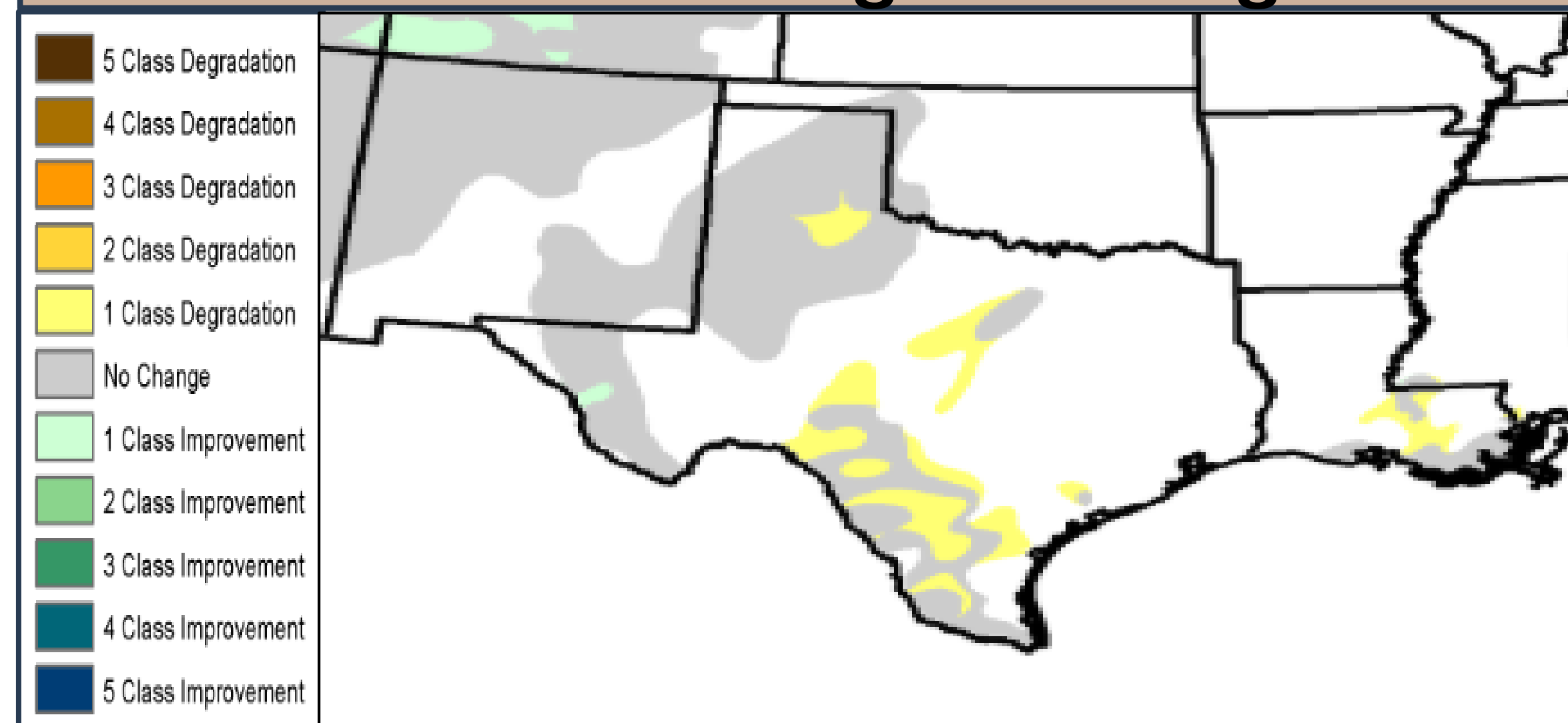
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Data valid as of 7am EST, Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Drought Monitor



One Week Change in Drought



Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

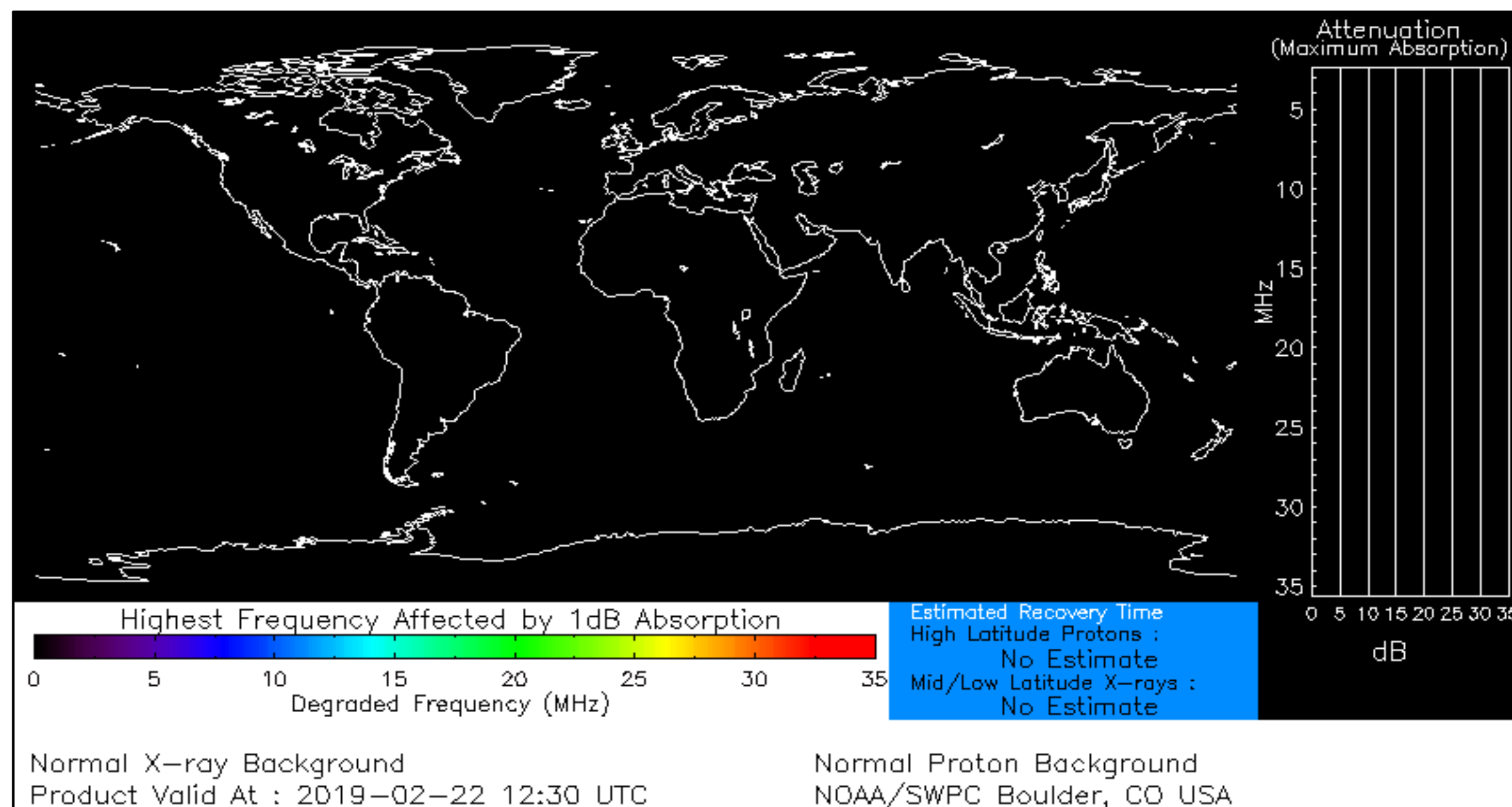
State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.91%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Oklahoma	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	37.80%
Texas	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.13%
New Mexico	3.38%	4.84%	10.90%	2.41%

Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



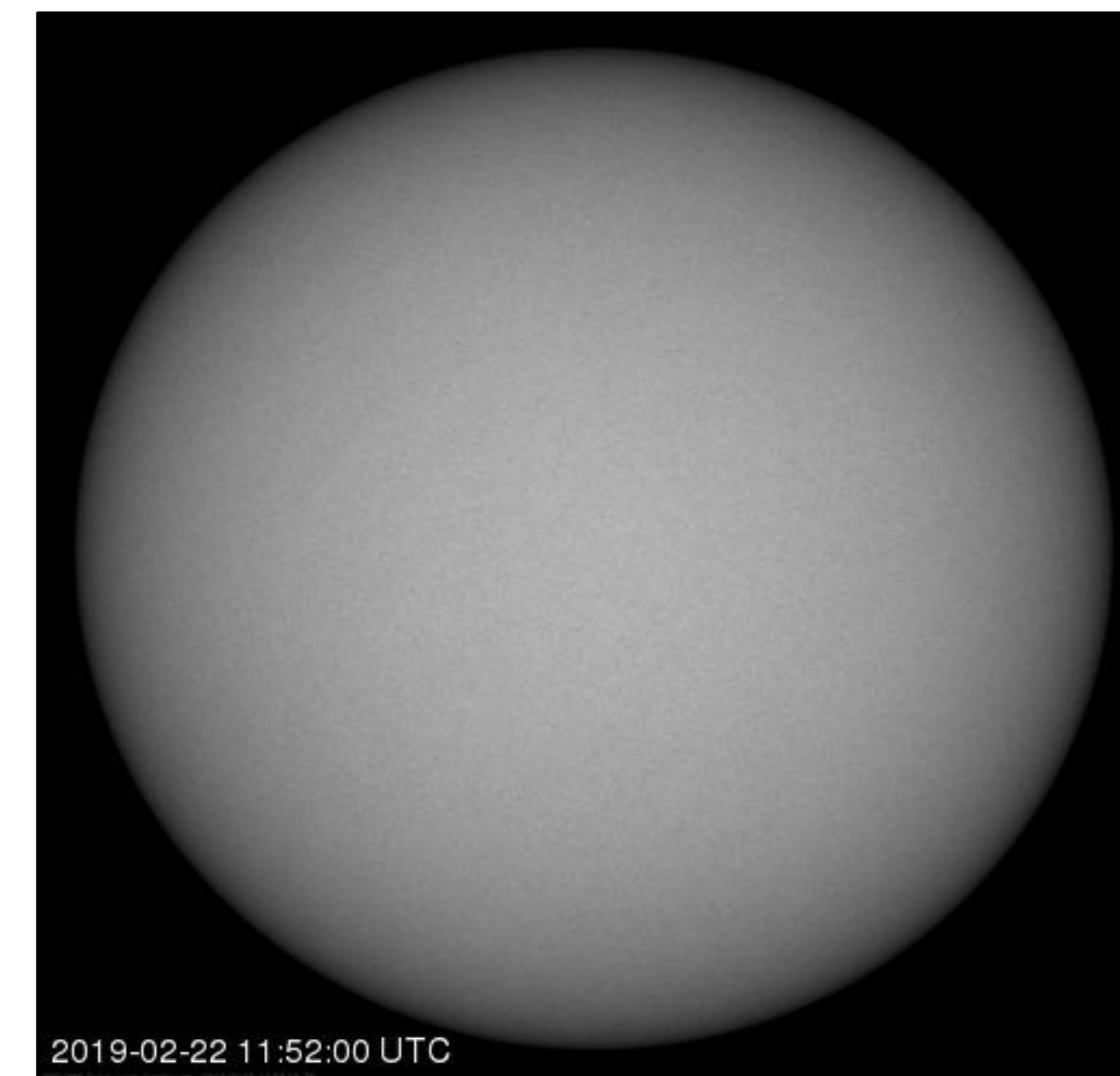
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	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a
Description of the Space
Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest
3-Day Space Weather
Forecast Text](#)





For more information, please contact:

National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747

E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov

Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>



Weather “Threat” Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	Very Common Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX
Yellow	Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail
Orange	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected
Red	Rare – Once every 1-5 Years Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue
Purple	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms

Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to

sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov